

RESOLUTION NO. 274-10

BY: **LARRY NAPOLI, MARY GALINAS, SEAN BRENNAN**

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE BIG
CREEK WATERSHED BALANCED GROWTH
INITIATIVE, AND DECLARING AN
EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through the Ohio Lake Erie Commission's Balanced Growth Program, has identified the need to enhance protection of the State's waters and Lake Erie by supporting local governments to improve planning for development and conservation; and,

WHEREAS, Big Creek is an important part of the Cuyahoga River and Lake Erie ecosystem, providing storm water management, and important recreational opportunities and wildlife habitat, including Cleveland Metropark resources; and,

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization developed the *Big Creek Watershed Plan – Balancing Growth and Watershed Stewardship* that identifies priority areas for conservation and development through local government participation in the Big Creek watershed communities; and,

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization is seeking endorsement of this *Big Creek Watershed Balanced Growth Plan* by the Ohio Lake Erie Commission in order to permit the local governments in the watershed to seek the benefits and incentives provided by this endorsement; and,

WHEREAS, the Priority Development Areas and the Priority Conservation Areas identified in the *Big Creek Watershed Plan – Balancing Growth and Watershed Stewardship* are to be used by State of Ohio Agencies to guide State activities and programs affecting these areas and they will serve as the basis for special incentives programs to be directed to the Big Creek watershed communities; and,

WHEREAS, the designation of such areas will assist the City of Parma to minimize future flooding, erosion, and water quality problems, threats to infrastructure, and reliance on costly engineered solutions to storm water problems;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARMA, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That this Council hereby supports the *Big Creek Watershed Balanced Growth Plan* and the Priority Development Areas, Priority Conservation Areas identified therein, and hereby adopts the Plan.

Section 2. That the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization is requested to assist the Friends of Big Creek and seek endorsement of this Balanced Growth Watershed plan by the Ohio Lake Erie Commission in order to permit the local governments in the watershed to seek the benefits and incentives provided by this endorsement.

Section 3. That the Priority Development Areas, Priority Conservation Areas identified in the Balanced Growth Watershed Plan are to be used by State of Ohio Agencies to guide state activities and programs and they will serve as the basis for special incentives programs to be directed to the Big Creek watershed and the governmental jurisdictions within it.

Section 4. That the City of Parma will consider changes to City regulations and policies necessary to implement Priority Conservation Areas and Priority Development Areas and to act on the findings of additional natural resource and land use data, all to the maximum extent possible.

Section 5. That the City of Parma will support and work collaboratively with the Friends of Big Creek and the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization.

Section 6. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a true and accurate copy of this Resolution to the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization and Friends of Big Creek.

Section 7. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 8. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Parma, and for the further reason that this measure is necessary in order to demonstrate the City's support for this initiative, and this Resolution shall become immediately effective upon receiving the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members elected to Council and approval of the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____ APPROVED: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

FILED WITH
THE MAYOR: _____
MAYOR, CITY OF PARMA, OHIO